

The Unknown Soldier is silently speaking to us all, saying we must never forget those who had full lives ahead—and those whose lives were quickly shattered, perhaps by a bullet, a grenade, and other such weapons. He is saying, "Never let it happen again—never." He is a voice that shall never be silenced by anyone or anything.

And forget him no one does. The President of the United States and other such people pay their respects the unknown soldier. It is truly a great honor to lay a wreath at the unknown soldier's tomb. You are saying, "I honor and respect those who served for our country, who served for me. I will never forget those who died for our country, who died for me."

The unknown soldier—a common soldier whose identity is never known, but his presence and voice is always there.

CONGRATULATIONS DAVID
MCNEILL

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest inspirations for people is knowing that their friends and neighbors have been able to deal with unfortunate happenings in their lives. Even more inspiring is seeing how people can turn these unfortunate occurrences into new opportunities for greatness. I am pleased to tell our colleagues that one of my constituents, David McNeill, has done exactly that: He has taken what was a terrible moment in his life and turned it into an accomplishment for all to hail.

In 1992, David McNeill was the victim of a car accident that left him confined to a wheel chair and forced him to find new employment because his accident would not allow him to continue to his profession as a tool and die-maker. Instead of becoming overcome with anxiety, David accepted his challenge head-on. He and his wife, Deborah, refinanced their home, sold his motorcycle, and other prized possessions to use money for their expenses. At Deborah's urging, he entered Delta College at the age of 46 where he has excelled academically, maintaining a 3.8 average and being named to the 1996 Community College All-State Academic Second Team.

His tremendous effort earned for him a competitive 6-week internship from Phi Theta Kappa at the U.S. Department of Education, which he is currently serving. I have had the pleasure of meeting with David McNeill, and I must tell you that we would all do much better if we had his spirit and his determination.

Education is a never-ending process, and in our ever-changing world, we all need to keep learning new information and skills. David's efforts to expand his education is an inspiration to everyone. I am sure that it has been an exciting and challenging experience, and at times somewhat daunting. But to carry on in the outstanding fashion that he has at Delta is a clear demonstration of the value of focus and commitment.

His internship at the Department of Education will help develop the cutting edge of future education programs. If our Nation is to remain a world leader, it will be because we took the time to educate our people and to provide opportunities for continuing education.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing David McNeill the very best as he continues to show each use that the only limit to hold us back is ourselves.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL D. CRAPO

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker on June 5, 1996, I was unavoidably detained due to my daughters graduation. I missed rollcall votes: 210, 211, 212, and 213. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on all.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker on June 10, 1996 I was unavoidably detained due to illness. I missed rollcall votes: 222, 223, and 224. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on all.

CLINTON WON'T LET WELFARE
CHANGE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues this editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on June 24, 1996.

CLINTON WON'T LET WELFARE CHANGE

People keep trying to help President Clinton accomplish his stated goal of "end(ing) welfare as we know it," but he won't let them do it.

Congress presented him a welfare-reform bill in 1995 that seemed destined for presidential approval. But liberal groups criticized the legislation and persuaded Clinton to veto it.

In February this year, the National Governors' Association produced a bipartisan plan to reform welfare and Medicaid, a plan endorsed by Nebraska Gov. Ben Nelson. Clinton, too, spoke favorably of the plan, but officials of his administration have been fighting it in congressional hearings.

Two months ago Gov. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin signed his state's welfare reform plan. It would end welfare as an entitlement program. People could be denied benefits without recourse to hearings. Welfare assistance would be conditioned on work. Jobs, child care and health care would not be guaranteed.

Three weeks after the Wisconsin plan was completed, the president called it "a solid, bold welfare reform plan" in his weekly radio address. Bob Dole was scheduled to give a major speech on welfare reform three days later. It was a preemptive political strike by a president who lately has talked, but not acted, like a Republican.

Now that the president has exploited the opportunity to upstage Dole by patting the Republican Thompson on the back and appearing to be the champion of welfare reform, his administration is challenging the Wisconsin plan.

For proof of its welfare-reform credentials, the Clinton administration cites waivers it has granted to 39 states to implement welfare programs that don't conform to federal requirements. But in this case the Washing-

ton penchant for centralized bureaucratic control may prevail. Wisconsin may not get the federal waiver it needs to proceed.

In 1993, first lady Hillary Clinton's proposal to reduce the growth of Medicare spending from 10 percent to 7 percent was touted by the administration as responsible reform. Two years later, when congressional Republicans proposed the same spending growth rate reduction, the president decried a 7 percent growth cap as an attempt to "cut" and "destroy" Medicare.

Governor Thompson's once "solid" and "bold" welfare plan may face the same fate that befell Mrs. Clinton's 7 percent growth cap once it was expropriated by Republicans.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICAN-ITALIAN PROFES-
SIONAL AND BUSINESS WOMEN'S
CLUB

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, July 21, the American Italian Professional and Business Women's Club will celebrate its 40th anniversary. AMIT, as it is known, was established in 1956 by Maria Lalli and Maria Giuliano to further cultural, charitable, and social functions, with an emphasis on Italian culture whenever the opportunity arises. The club derives its membership from women who are of Italian descent or are married to a man of Italian descent.

AMIT's list of beneficiaries includes a broad range of organizations around the world. Missions and health care institutions in Burma, India, and Detroit, MI, children and orphans in the United States and Italy, Italian earthquake and flood relief efforts, public television, symphony orchestras, and Orchestra Hall in Detroit, all have been assisted by their interest and generosity. A special focus of their support is those places which celebrate Italian culture: The Italian American Cultural and Community Center, the Italian Heritage Room at Wayne State University, and the Church of San Francisco.

Social functions arranged around artistic and cultural presentations provide the funds for AMIT's charitable work. The club is proud to have presented lectures by the daughters of distinguished Italian scientists Guglielmo Marconi and Enrico Fermi. They have sponsored book and author luncheons featuring Italian-American authors or writers on Italian subjects, and have promoted events at the Detroit Institute of Arts when Italian artists were on special exhibition. Italian musicians, both established artists and prodigies, have been presented in recital.

Now at the close of its fourth decade of activity, AMIT boasts several families with multiple generations of membership and leadership. The Giuliano-Baker family takes great pride in its four successive generations of women who have served the club as president, beginning with the first president and co-founder, Maria Giuliano.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the American Italian Professional and Business Women's Club on achieving 40 years of outstanding service to the community, and I wish them many more years of successful endeavor. Our Nation's strength lies, in part, in groups such